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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 12 June 1951

SUBJECT 1. Russian Air Order of Battle
2. Air Police at Dessau

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 50X1-HUM

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1. Even though there has been no final count of aircraft at the end of the period, there is sufficient evidence on hand to warrant the conclusion that the number of jet-propelled planes has continued to increase through additional transfers from metropolitan Russia. It seems that the 18 to 24 planes presently located at many jet bases are to be considered only as a cadre and that they are scheduled to be filled up in planes and personnel to regimental size, e.g. about 40 planes.
2. As last year, this year's summer training schedule commenced with the movements of air force units, some of which had been hardly in evidence all during the winter months. These are exclusively units equipped with older type gasoline-burning planes which are apparently attached for maneuver purposes to tactical ground units, keeping their own training program independent of the jet training program, but coordinated with ground force maneuvers. The often reported assumption that all units with older model gasoline powered planes had been returned to Russia is apparently not fully justified. Toward the end of March, a regiment of IL-2 attack planes was transferred to the field at Reinsdorf, 16 kilometers southeast of Jüterbog.

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In addition, a mixed reconnaissance squadron, containing single and dual engine planes was moved on 3 April 1951 from Koethen to Borstel. This unit carries also a two-motor plane, of a type previously unknown. The wings sit high in the upper third of the fuselage (Schulterdecker) and the plane has a tricycle landing gear and a noticeably high side rudder. It is propelled by two rear engines with three-bladed propellers similar to the JU-188. Planes of this type have also been noted on the base at Jüterbog-Altes Lager working a PE-3 unit.

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3. Early in April the first jet bombers were identified in the Soviet Zone. First reports [redacted] between 7 and 10 April, indicating flights from the area east of the Oder River going in a north northwesterly direction. The planes were driven by two jet engines located under the wings. Later similar planes landed at the Germendorf-Oranienburg Air Field. [redacted] indicates that the Soviet Air Force has begun to modernize its attack (sic) squadrons in Germany which heretofore operated with antiquated PE-3's. So far, 18 planes, two squadrons, have been identified. Additional assignments may be anticipated at the following fields now operating PE-3's: Finsterwalde, Cottbus, and Jüterbog. On 20 April 1951, between 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM, the following observations were made at Germendorf-Oranienburg Airfield: Of the 18 new type jet planes, 12 were parked between the canal and the airplane hangars and six at the north-east end of the air strip. Training with the new planes was indicated by 10 minute flights with different crews on each flight. A crew consists of at least three men. The outer appearance of the fuselage is aluminum color without camouflage paint, and with red stars. The wings have straight front edges and flat ends. The nose is plexiglas. The tricycle landing gear is retracted into the fuselage just behind the plexiglas nose, the two main wheels into the motor subfuselages. The retraction and wheel lowering devices are visible on the front and the rear of the engine. (For detailed description see three sketches attached.) 50X1-HUM
4. In connection with the airfield construction program [redacted] at the airfield at Erfurt-Binderleben, 2000 men are building a new concrete runway scheduled for completion by the end of 1951. [redacted] 1400 men of the Bau Union Nord are engaged in transforming the Kiebnitz-Damgarten Field into a turbo-jet base with a 1500-meter concrete runway. [redacted] German air police possible will be stationed there. At Perleberg Airfield construction activities are also under way. Airforce ground personnel and German civilian workers are plowing under the grass strip and building a new drainage system in preparation for construction of a new runway. [redacted] units of an air police command, German paramilitary police units, have been observed for the first time in Dessau. [redacted] the group consisted of 15 officers whose uniforms bore the letters "LP" on the shoulder. They were training with two Russian PO 2 bi-planes. 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM
5. A complete overhauling of the Soviet Air Force in Germany in the fighter as well as in the bomber class can be anticipated by the end of 1951.

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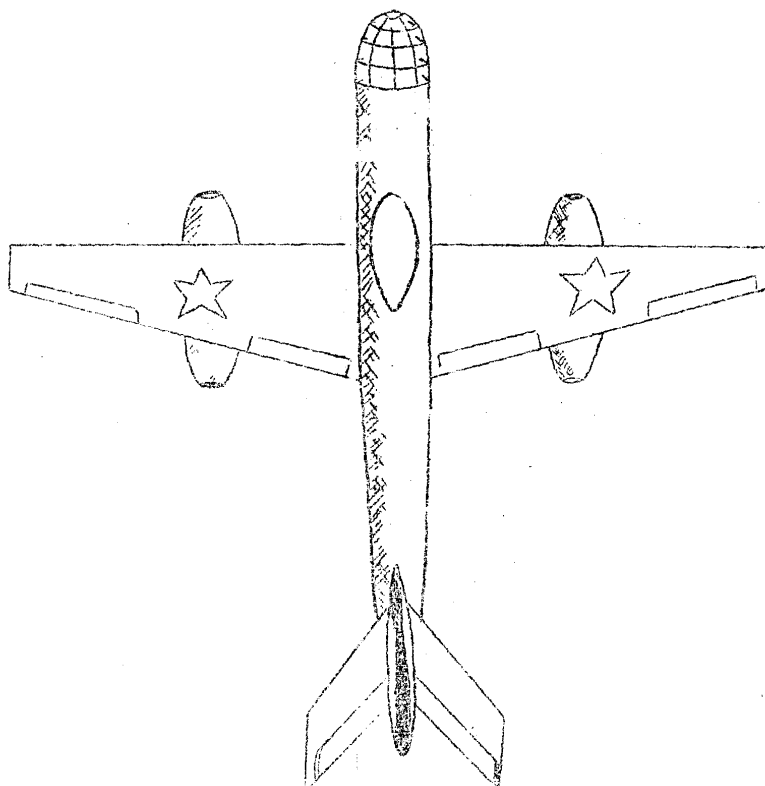
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ATTACHMENT ONE



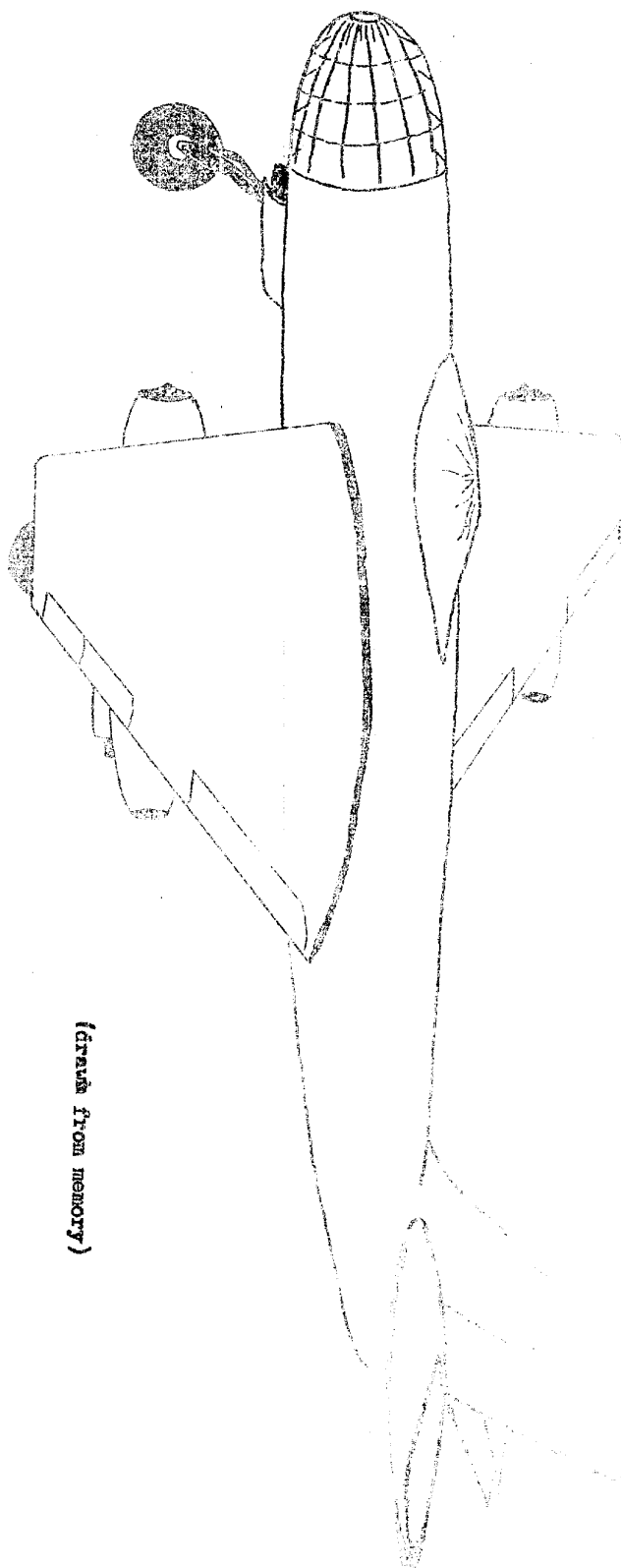
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ATTACHMENT TWO



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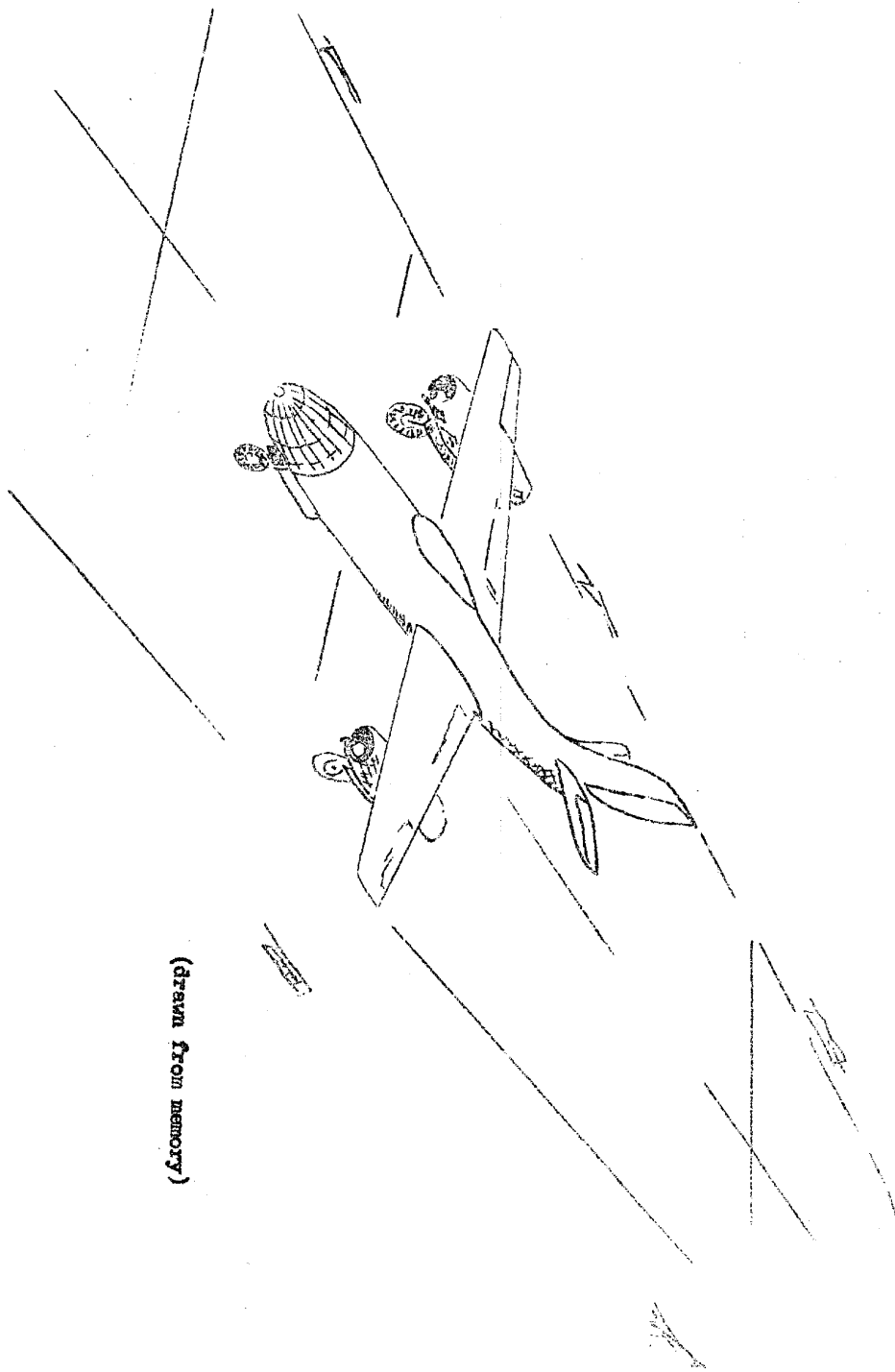
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ATTACHMENT THREE



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